UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23791
7 April 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 6 APRIL 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Mr. Ahmad Hussein, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, dated 4 April 1992 concerning the Council's statement of 27 March on the subject of the lifting of the sanctions regime imposed on Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Samir K. K. AL-NIMA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 4 April 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Once again the Security Council is taking a stand that is not characterized by justice and reflection, and it is not taking into consideration the human suffering that the people of Iraq - children, old people and women - have been enduring for 19 months as a result of the continuation of the economic embargo imposed on Iraq. In the note by the President of the Security Council in which he presented a statement on behalf of the members of the Council on 27 March 1992, the Council automatically and without due consideration once again decided to maintain the economic sanctions against Iraq, on the grounds that there was no agreement that the necessary circumstances existed for removing these sanctions, although Iraq, for its part, had submitted practical evidence of constructive cooperation and scrupulous implementation of its obligations under resolution 687 (1991).

It is clear to us that the real cause of the absence of the above-mentioned agreement lies in the obduracy of United States and United Kingdom positions in opposing the adoption by the Council of any positive step to alleviate the measures of the continuing economic sanctions against Iraq. This step that the Council has taken reflects the continuation of United States hegemony over the Security Council and demonstrates insistence on continuing to starve the people of Iraq and launch an economic and psychological war against it for the purpose of achieving political ends that are totally inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, international law and customary humanitarian values.

I request you to have this letter circulated as an offical document of the Security Council.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Ahmad HUSSEIN
Minister for Foreign Affairs